

From: Keith Fulton
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/17/01 3:45pm
Subject: Comments about Microsoft Settlement Proposal

Hi,

My name is Keith Fulton and I am a registered voter in Houston, Texas. I do not believe the settlement proposal is sufficient because all it does is address Microsoft's future behavior without punishing them for numerous and systematic violations of the law for which they have been convicted in court. If someone was accused of murder, tried, found guilty and then was given probation, most people would see that as a miscarriage of justice. I believe that is a good analogy for this settlement.

Microsoft has been convicted of violating the law in a way that affected millions of people over a period of years and continues to affect both them and the multi-billion dollar market they comprise. Both punishment and remedies are appropriate. This settlement provides for only the latter.

The only way I can think of to break Microsoft's ill-gotten stranglehold on the OS market is to make the full source code for Windows publicly available and adaptable for modifications and resale by other parties. Only then will the market truly return to having multiple viable choices for consumers. Microsoft would then also be put back on an even footing with the rest of the OS industry.

I don't know if these comments will have any effect or not. Hopefully the Justice Department will take under advisement my comments and the countless others I am sure they are receiving, since we have taken time out of our busy schedules to voice our opinions despite the slender odds of anything being changed.

Kind regards,

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